

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 179

Introduced by Assembly Members Bocanegra and Levine

January 24, 2013

An act to amend Section 31490 of, to amend the heading of Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 31490) of Division 17 of, and to amend the heading of Division 17 (commencing with Section 30000) of, the Streets and Highways Code, relating to transportation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 179, as introduced, Bocanegra. Public transit: electronic transit fare collection systems: disclosure of personal information.

Existing law prohibits a transportation agency from selling or providing personally identifiable information of a person obtained through the person's participation in an electronic toll collection system or use of a toll facility that uses an electronic toll collection system. Existing law, with certain exceptions, requires a transportation agency to discard personally identifiable information after 4 1/2 years, as specified. Existing law provides various remedies in that regard.

This bill would make these and other related provisions applicable to a transportation agency that employs an electronic transit fare collection system for payment of transit fares. The bill would require transportation agencies that obtain personally identifiable information of a person from electronic toll collection or electronic transit fare collection systems to discard that information after 6 months, as specified.

By imposing new duties on local transportation agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.

State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The heading of Division 17 (commencing with
2 Section 30000) of the Streets and Highways Code is amended to
3 read:

4
5 DIVISION 17. ~~TOLL BRIDGES, TOLL FERRIES, AND~~
6 ~~TOLL ROADS~~ *FACILITIES AND RELATED MATTERS*
7

8 SEC. 2. The heading of Chapter 8 (commencing with Section
9 31490) of Division 17 of the Streets and Highways Code is
10 amended to read:

11
12 CHAPTER 8. ~~ELECTRONIC TOLL COLLECTION AND ELECTRONIC~~
13 ~~TRANSIT FARE COLLECTION~~ *SYSTEMS*
14

15 SEC. 3. Section 31490 of the Streets and Highways Code is
16 amended to read:

17 31490. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a
18 transportation agency may not sell or otherwise provide to any
19 other person or entity personally identifiable information of any
20 person who subscribes to an electronic toll *or electronic transit*
21 *fare* collection system or who uses a toll bridge, toll lane, or toll
22 highway that employs an electronic toll collection system *or who*
23 *uses a public transportation system that employs an electronic*
24 *transit fare collection system.*

25 (b) A transportation agency that employs an electronic toll
26 collection *or an electronic transit fare collection* system shall
27 establish a privacy policy regarding the collection and use of
28 personally identifiable information and provide to subscribers of
29 that system a copy of the privacy policy in a manner that is
30 conspicuous and meaningful, such as by providing a copy to the

subscriber with the transponder, *electronic transit pass*, or other device used as an electronic toll *or transit fare* collection mechanism, or, if the system does not use a mechanism, with the application materials. A transportation agency shall conspicuously post its privacy policy on its Internet Web site. For purposes of this subdivision, “conspicuously post” has the same meaning as that term is defined in paragraphs (1) to (4), inclusive, of subdivision (b) of Section 22577 of the Business and Professions Code. The policy shall include, but need not be limited to, a description of the following:

(1) The types of personally identifiable information that is collected by the agency.

(2) The categories of third-party persons or entities with whom the agency may share personally identifiable information.

(3) The process by which a transportation agency notifies subscribers of material changes to its privacy policy.

(4) The effective date of the privacy policy.

(5) The process by which a subscriber may review and request changes to any of his or her personally identifiable information.

(c) A transportation agency may, within practical business and cost constraints, store only personally identifiable information of a person such as, *to the extent applicable*, the account name, credit card number, billing address, vehicle information, and other basic account information required to perform account functions such as billing, account settlement, or enforcement activities. All other information, ~~on and after July 1, 2011, shall be discarded no more than four years and six months after the closure date of the billing cycle and~~ *has concluded*, the bill has been paid, and all toll violations, if applicable, have been resolved.

(d) ~~On and after July 1, 2011, a~~ A transportation agency shall take every effort, within practical business and cost constraints, to purge the personal account information of an account that is closed or terminated. In no case shall a transportation agency maintain personal information more than ~~four years and six months~~ after the date an account is closed or terminated.

(e) (1) A transportation agency may make personally identifiable information of a person available to a law enforcement agency only pursuant to a search warrant. Absent a provision in the search warrant to the contrary, the law enforcement agency shall immediately, but in any event within no more than five days,

1 notify the person that his or her records have been obtained and
2 shall provide the person with a copy of the search warrant and the
3 identity of the law enforcement agency or peace officer to whom
4 the records were provided.

5 (2) This section does not prohibit a peace officer, as defined in
6 Section 830.1 or 830.2 of the Penal Code, when conducting a
7 criminal or traffic collision investigation, from obtaining personally
8 identifiable information of a person if the officer has good cause
9 to believe that a delay in obtaining this information by seeking a
10 search warrant would cause an adverse result, as defined in
11 paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 1524.2 of the Penal
12 Code.

13 (f) This section does not prohibit a transportation agency in
14 subdivision (a) from providing aggregated traveler information
15 derived from collective data that relates to a group or category of
16 persons from which personally identifiable information has been
17 removed.

18 (g) This section does not prohibit a transportation agency, *with*
19 *respect to an electronic toll collection system*, from providing the
20 license plate number of an intermodal chassis to the owner of the
21 chassis for purposes of locating the driver of the chassis in the
22 event the driver fails to pay ~~the~~ a toll.

23 (h) This section, *with respect to an electronic toll collection*
24 *system*, does not prohibit a transportation agency from sharing data
25 with another transportation agency solely to comply with
26 interoperability specifications and standards adopted pursuant to
27 Section 27565 regarding electronic toll collection devices and
28 technologies. A third-party vendor may not use personally
29 identifiable information obtained under this subdivision for a
30 purpose other than described in this subdivision.

31 (i) Subdivision (d) shall not prohibit a transportation agency,
32 or its designee, from performing financial and accounting functions
33 such as billing, account settlement, enforcement, or other financial
34 activities required to operate and manage the toll facilities *or transit*
35 *operations*.

36 (j) This section does not prohibit a transportation agency from
37 communicating about products and services offered by itself, a
38 business partner, or the agency with which it contracts to
39 subscribers of the transportation agency through a contracted
40 third-party vendor using personally identifiable information limited

1 to the subscriber's name, address, and electronic mail address,
2 provided that, ~~for customer agreements entered into on or after~~
3 ~~January 1, 2011,~~ the transportation agency has received the
4 subscriber's express written consent to receive the communications.

5 (k) A transportation agency may not use a nonsubscriber's
6 personally identifiable information obtained using an electronic
7 toll collection *or electronic transit fare collection* system to market
8 products or services to that nonsubscriber. This subdivision shall
9 not apply to toll-related products or services contained in a notice
10 of toll evasion issued pursuant to Section 23302 of the Vehicle
11 Code.

12 (l) For purposes of this section, "transportation agency" means
13 the Department of Transportation, the Bay Area Toll Authority,
14 any entity operating a toll bridge, toll lane, or toll highway within
15 the state, *any transportation agency administering an electronic*
16 *transit fare collection system and any transit operator participating*
17 *in that system,* or any entity under contract with any of the above
18 entities.

19 (m) For purposes of this section, "electronic toll collection
20 system" is a system where a transponder, camera-based vehicle
21 identification system, or other electronic medium is used to deduct
22 payment of a toll from a subscriber's account or to establish an
23 obligation to pay a toll, *and "electronic transit fare collection*
24 *system" means a system for issuing an electronic transit pass that*
25 *enables a transit passenger subscriber to use the transit systems*
26 *of one or more participating transit operators without having to*
27 *pay individual fares, where fares are instead deducted from the*
28 *subscriber's account as loaded onto the electronic transit pass.*

29 (n) For purposes of this section, "person" means any person
30 who subscribes to an electronic toll collection *or electronic transit*
31 *fare collection* system or any person who uses a toll bridge, toll
32 lane, or toll road that employs an electronic toll collection system
33 *or who uses a public transportation system that participates in an*
34 *electronic transit fare collection system.*

35 (o) For purposes of this section, "personally identifiable
36 information" means any information that identifies or describes a
37 person including, but not limited to, travel pattern data, address,
38 telephone number, e-mail address, license plate number,
39 photograph, bank account information, or credit card number.

(p) (1) In addition to any other remedies provided by law, a person whose personally identifiable information has been knowingly sold or otherwise provided in violation of this section may bring an action to recover either actual damages or two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) for each individual violation, whichever is greater, and may also recover reasonable costs and attorney's fees.

(2) A person whose personally identifiable information has been knowingly sold or otherwise provided three or more times in violation of this section may bring an action to recover either actual damages or four thousand dollars (\$4,000) for each individual violation, whichever is greater, and may also recover reasonable costs and attorney's fees.

(q) Nothing in subdivisions (c) and (d) shall preclude compliance with a court order or settlement agreement that has been approved on or before April 25, 2010.

(r) A transportation agency that employs an electronic toll collection *or electronic transit fare collection* system may impose an administrative fee on persons who use ~~that system~~ *those systems* in an amount sufficient to cover the cost of implementing this section.

SEC. 4. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code.